

hf Happenings

No 510

June 2012

Where would I find this tree? The N3 is about 150 metres away.

The photograph in HF Happenings 509 was taken in Luzern (or Lucerne) in Switzerland. It is the Kapellbrücke (Chapel Bridge) and Wasserturm (Water Tower) on the river Reuss.

Kapellbrücke - this bridge is located near the junction of the river and the *Vierwaldstättersee*, or Lake of the Four Forest Cantons (also known as Lake Lucerne). The bridge bends as it leaves the shore and then angles across the river past a stone Wasserturm that is believed to have once served as the lucerna, or lighthouse, after which the town was named.

The Kapellbrücke was built in 1333. As you cross its 200-metre length, you will see 120 captioned triangular paintings from the early 1500s that chronicle the city's history. The paintings feature St Mauritius and St Leodegar, the patron saints of Lucerne.

South African Radio League
Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga

Member Society of the In-
ternational Amateur Radio
Union since 1925

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SARL Top Band QSO Party

This is a fun activity to promote contacts on 160 metres between radio amateurs in Southern African countries and to encourage radio amateurs to apply for the SARL Top Band Award. The event is open to all licensed amateurs that have access to the 160 metre band.

The QSO party will run from 00:00 UTC or 02:00 CAT on Thursday 21 June 2012 to 00:00 UTC or 02:00 CAT on Monday 25 June 2012. You may use CW and phone during the QSO Party on the following frequencies - CW 1 810 to 1 838 kHz and Phone 1 840 to 1 850 kHz.

The exchange is a RS(T) report and provincial or country abbreviation. Following the QSO, the station must change the **dial** frequency by at least 2 KHz for the next QSO, unless a period of 10 minutes has lapsed between contacts. **The frequency of each QSO must be shown on the log sheet.**

Each station can be worked once per mode i.e. once on Phone and again with CW. Each contact will count three (3) points and five (5) additional bonus points will be awarded for each South African call area and each DXCC country worked. Total Score = (Total QSO points) plus (Bonus points)

Log sheets must be submitted by Monday 2 July 2012 to the West Rand Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 5344, Weltevreden Park, 1725 or sent by e-mail to contest@sarl.org.za.

Why not give QRP contesting a try during the next couple of weekends?





The 2012 IARU HF World Championships

The 2012 IARU HF World Championships will take place during the second full weekend of July, beginning at 12:00 UTC on Saturday 14 July and ending at 12:00 UTC on Sunday 15 July 2012.

The objective of this contest is to contact as many other amateurs, especially IARU Member Society HQ stations, around the world as possible using the 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 metre bands using phone and/or CW. The Member Society HQ station counts as a multiplier as well as members of the Regional Executive Committees and the Administrative Council.

All IARU Region 1 Member Societies are invited to actively participate with their official stations and to encourage their members to participate as well. The rules for the 2012 contest are available at <http://www.arrl.org/iaru-hf-championship>

IARU Monitoring System Newsletter

The May issue of the IARU Monitoring System (IARUMS) newsletter reports on a 'Clansman' transmission in the amateur radio 28 MHz band, possibly from the Falkland Islands. The newsletter says, "Clansman" is the name of a F1B system, which is used by the British military. Parameters: 300 Bd and 850 shift. The system was daily transmitting on 28 181.5 kHz and well audible in Germany every late noon. Our bearings were showing South America. DK2OM thinks the emissions are coming from the Falkland Islands.

There is also a report on the CODAR radar system in North East India, Bay of Bengal, that is operating on 14 070 - 14 125 kHz.

The International Amateur Radio Union Monitoring System (IARUMS) Region 1 May 2012 newsletter can be read at

www.iarums-r1.org/iarums/news2012/news1205.pdf

Monitor the short wave bands on-line with a web based SDR receiver at <http://www.websdr.org/>. Please log your reports of Amateur Band intruders online at <http://peditio.net/intruder/bluechat.cgi>.

DJ6SI - Report on the arrest in Kos, Greece

By Baldur Drobnica, DJ6SI, and translated by Bernd Koch, DF3CB

I booked a holiday trip break of one week on the island of Kos in Greece in May this year. I took a HF station with me to give some DXers new band points or even a new country. I could install a G5RV with the permission of the hotel management.

After three days, at 01 in the morning, my XYL DL6KCD and I were woken up by an attorney and five police officers in civilian clothes.

My wife is suffering from Alzheimer and has three bypasses. I was accused of conducting radio communications without a Greek radio license. The second accusation was that I could also watch other frequencies with my transceiver, a FT-890AT. My objection was rejected that I operate legally on base of the CEPT regulations. The hotel manager printed the CEPT list, which is available on the website of the DARC and handed the printout out to the attorney. The

June

2 – Feast of Shiraz and Charcuterie,
Hartenberg Wine Estate; Skilpadfees,
Florisbad
3 – 2012 Comrades Marathon
2 and 3 – topCar Gauteng Motor
Show, Zwartkops
5 – World Environmental Day
6 – Transit of Venus
7 to 10 – Wacky Wine Weekend,
Robertson Valley
9 – First Ascent Big Induna Mountain
Biking Classic, Hazzyview
15 to 17 – Cape Town Book Fair
16 – Youth Day
16 – SA National Amateur Radio
Day; Youth Day Contest
17 – Father's Day; World QRP Day
21 to 25 – SARL Top Band QSO Party
22 – Schools close
22 to 24 – Ham Radio 2012, Frie-
drichshafen
28 to 8 July – National Arts Festival,
Grahamstown
29 – 8 July – East Coast Radio House
and Garden Show, Durban





paper was ignored, folded and put into the pocket. My transceiver was confiscated together with the power supply and the headphones with the remark that it had to be checked by a specialist. They also tried to confiscate my notebook, which I tried to defeat because the notebook was not related to the transceiver that had to be checked.

Two mobile phones, cameras and the logbook were also confiscated; we were handcuffed and taken to the police station. The handcuffs were so tight that they cut into my flesh and draw blood.

I was taken to a hospital where the wound my on hand was treated. In absence of a prison cell, the police wanted to put me into a drunk tank but the attending physician declined that. So I had to spend four hours at the police station sitting on a chair. My hint that I had to see my un-oriented wife was rejected by saying that she is enclosed in the (hotel?) room and being closely guarded from outside.

After long discussions I was then escorted by two police officers to visit my wife at the hotel, medicate and dress her. Personal care and showering, was rejected. Back at the police station, a protocol was created.

Then we were driven to the courthouse. It was now 11 AM. I was photographed and fingerprinted in the courtyard of the courthouse.

Then we waited again until 4 PM under police protection, when I was presented to the attorney who explained me the charges in a two- minute talk: transmitting without permission, having a radio with frequencies other than intended for amateur radio operators and the hindrance in handing out my notebook.

I was commissioned to the court for the next day at 12:00. I had to wait until 16:00 until a judge and an attorney came. The judge told me that he had no translator and appointed a new proceeding for the next day at 12:00. When I objected that we had to fly back the next day, he explained: "this is your problem." Finished.

I called the German Embassy in Athens on the morning of the next day and got the notification of the German-speaking lawyer on Kos. We met an hour before the opening hearing. My luck was that he was once interested in amateur radio. I handed him the documents that were kindly printed out by the hotel management had kindly printed for me: CEPT regulations of the DARC and this also in Greek language. The hearing was very noisy and the objection of the attorney, he would turn to the European Court, the judge adjourned the hearing, let me go back to Germany and decreed that the lawyer could attend the next hearing alone.

My wife and I had not taken any food for sixteen hours; it was not even offered us. I had no way to sleep for 34 hours. All this as a consequence of an anonymous tip that I had been working without authorization and that I could hear other transmitters. The prosecution referred to a charge on a law dating back to the year 1929!

I was acquitted of the first charge concerning amateur radio in the second court date. I was however punished with 5 months of prison with three years of probation for the refusal of handing out my notebook and the attempt to make it unusable.

(Thanks Raoul, ZS1REC, for this item)

German radio hams gain access to 472 - 479 kHz

Radio amateurs in Germany are now allowed to operate in the new 472 - 479 kHz band. The German administration (BNetzA) announced in the official gazette No. 11/2012 that from 13 June German radio amateurs with a licence class A may use the band 472 - 479 kHz (in anticipation of the normally needed changes in the National Frequency Allocation Table). Power limit is 1 watt erp, maximum bandwidth 800 Hz.

Sovereign Military Order of Malta, 1A

Why not give QRP contesting a try during the next couple of weekends?





(Press Release #2). The 1AOC Web page is now active, and the following press release was posted [edited]:

"Following the first press release about 1AOC, we proudly announce that the website about the amateur radio activity that will be held from 1 to 4 July 2012 in Santa Maria del Priorto is now online. You can visit it at <http://www.1a0c.com>

While you will find full details on the activation on the website, we would like to remind you the strong commitment of the team to offer the elusive 1A entity to as many radio amateurs outside Europe as possible. So, since the beginning, we ask for understanding from European operators, reminding them amateur radio is also about being fair.

The website contains also a 'Donation' page. We ask every ham interested to work 1A to check it, as the July activation of Malta Order has a goal beyond amateur radio. Every QSO will contribute to that goal, so it is important to raise awareness about our project.

Thanking in advance for cooperation and help in spreading the word, we kindly aim anyone looking for further details to get in touch with PR and media contact 1a0c@1a0c.com."

Test Cruise of OH10X/MM on the Baltic Sea

Kristina Cruises Ltd with Radio Arcala, OH8X, are in the process of testing whether a permanent amateur radio station will suit the maritime environment and serve DXers in their leisure time, whether cruising in the Mediterranean or off West Africa or just doing island-hopping in the Caribbean.

The objective for the first run is to look at potential interference issues both ways - from the amateur radio station to the ship's navigation system and from the ship's advanced PC networks to the reception of amateur radio transmissions.

However, while testing, with Martti, OH2BH, at the helm, another target is to contact all continents and achieve WAC to celebrate the occasion of signing a possible permanent agreement for the station to be available for guests with an amateur radio license.

The onboard station will be active at the peak propagation hours to various continents on 14 267 kHz from 20 to 24 June 2012, and the test cruise will take the ship to Estonia (ES), Gotland, Sweden (SM1), Aland Islands (OHO), and back to Finland.

The ship M/S Kristina Katarina is a 138 m long vessel and has a cruising speed of 15 knots, with a maximum number of 450 guests and a crew of up to one-hundred. A private Finnish company owns the ship with a Finnish crew sailing under the Finnish flag. Two Finnair jetliners are backing the operations for change of passengers at a variety of ports along the way." For more details, see the following Web pages <http://www.qrz.com/db/OH10X> and <http://www.kristinacruises.com/en/cruises/ms-kristina-katarina/introduction>

YASME Awards and Expanded List of Eligible Call Signs

"The Yasme Foundation has for many years offered two Yasme Awards, available at no cost to qualifying applicants. The first Yasme Award, in the form of a handsome plaque, is offered to those amateurs who submit proof of 30 QSOs with Yasme officials and DXpeditions that have at least one Yasme official as a participant. The second, the Yasme Supreme Award, is in the form of a representation of the YASME boat used by Danny Weil in his around-the-world DXpedition and is available to those who submit proof of 60 QSOs with Yasme officials and DXpeditions with a Yasme official as a participant. See www.yasme.org.

After a yearlong evaluation of the rules for qualifying call signs, the Board of Directors is pleased to announce that the rules for qualifying call signs have been revised. As a result, many call signs have been added to the list. The revised list of call signs eligible for both awards is available at the Yasme Foundation website <http://www.yasme.org/DXpeditions.html>





The Yasma Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation organized to conduct scientific and educational projects related to Amateur Radio, including DXing (long distance communication) and the introduction and promotion of Amateur Radio in underdeveloped countries. For additional information about The Yasma Foundation, visit our website at www.yasme.org.

Wayne A. Mills, N7NG, President, The Yasma Foundation

Board of Directors: Wayne Mills, N7NG, Director and President; Fred Laun, K3ZO, Director and Vice-President; Rusty Epps, W6OAT, Director and Treasurer; Kip Edwards, W6SZN, Director and Secretary; Martti Laine, OH2BH, Director; Mac McHenry, W6BSY, Director; Ward Silver, NOAX, Director and Robert Vallio, W6RGG, Director"

African DX

Chad, TT. Phil, F4EGS, has returned to Ndjamena, Chad, and will remain there until 6 August 2012. He will be active on all HF bands as TT8PK. QSL via F4EGS, direct or by the REF Bureau. Website www.grz.com/db/TT8PK

African Islands

Pantelleria Island, AF-018. Operator Raffaele, IH9YMC, will be active from Pantelleria Island (IIA TP-001, MIA MI-124, WW Loc. JM56xt), African Italy, during the RSGB IOTA Contest, 28 and 29 July, as a Single-Op entry. QSL via eQSL.

Special Event Stations

Netherlands, PA. The special event station PA300BPM is in honour of the 300th Buitensluisse Paarden Markt (Horse fair) in Numansdorp. This station is currently active until 28 June 2012. QSL via PD2GSP, by the Dutch QSL Bureau (DQB) or by post (direct).

Greece, SV. On the 135th anniversary of the Greek Red Cross, special event station SX135HRC will be active on all bands and modes from several locations until 31 July 2012. Stavros, SV1EOS, located in Agia Paraskevi, Greece (WW Loc. KM17ux), will activate SX135HRC. SX135HRC/2 will be activated from Thessaloniki, Greece (WW Loc KN10lp), by Pantelis, SV2HWR, (CW and SSB) and Panos, SV7CUD, (SSB and the Digital modes). Agelos, SV9IOJ, (SSB only) will activate SX135HRC/9 from the Heraklion region, island of Crete (EU-015, GIOTA KRS-005, MIA MGC-005, WLOTA 1400, WW Loc. KM25lc). QSL to SV1EOS via the Bureau, direct, or eQSL.

Norway. The special station LJ2T will be active from the Signals Museum of the Norwegian Armed Forces near Lillehammer, Norway (locator JP51ed) from 28 June to 1 July on many bands and modes, most likely from 80 to 4 metres (70 MHz). QSL via LA5EAA. More information at www.grz.com/db/lj2t. 73 Tom, LA4LN, Station Manager for LJ2T

Contest Calendar

This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 18 to 25 June 2012.

NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint
00:30 - 02:30 UTC 21 June
Mode: CW

Why not give QRP contesting a try during the next couple of weekends?





Bands: 80, 40, 20 m

Classes: (none)

Max power: <1 watt

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and NAQCC no or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 2 points per QSO with member

Multipliers: Each state, province, or country once; Key Type Mult: 2 x if straight key, 1,5 x if bug, 1 x if other

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x key type mult

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 24 June 2012

E-mail logs to: naqcc33@windstream.net

Upload log at: <http://naqcc.info/sprintlog.html>

Mail logs to: John Shannon, K3WWP, 478 E. High St., Kittanning, PA 16201, USA

Find rules at: <http://naqcc.info/sprint201206mw.html>

RSGB 80 m Club Championship, SSB

19:00 - 20:30 UTC 21 June

Mode: SSB

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: (none)

Exchange: RS and serial no

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 28 June 2012

Upload log at: <http://www.vhfcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2012/r80mcc.shtml>

SARL Top Band QSO Party

00:00 UTC 21 June to 00:00 UTC 25 June

Mode: SSB and CW

Band: 160 m

Class: Single operator

Max power: as per licence

Exchange: RS(T) and provincial or country abbreviation

Work stations: once per mode

QSO Points: 3 points per QSO

Bonus Points: 5 points for each South African call area and each DXCC country worked

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total Score = (Total QSO points) and (Bonus points)

Submit logs by: 2 July 2012

E-mail logs to: contest@sarl.org.za

Mail logs to: West Rand Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 5344, Weltevreden Park, 1725

Find rules at: <http://www.sarl.org.za> and the 2012 SARL Contest Manual

His Majesty the King of Spain SSB Contest

12:00 UTC 23 June to 12:00 UTC 24 June

Mode: SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m





Classes: Single Op All Band; Single Op Single Band; Multi-Op
Exchange: EA: RS and province; non-EA: RS and serial no
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: (see rules)
Multipliers: Each EA province once per band; Each EA DX100 entity, except EA, EA6, EA8 and EA9 once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 15 July 2012
E-mail logs to: smreyssb@ure.es
Mail logs to: URE HF Contests, PO Box 220, 28080 Madrid, Spain
Find rules at: <http://www.ure.es/contest/431-sm-el-rey-contest-english-version.html>

Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest
12:00 UTC 23 June to 12:00 UTC 24 June
Mode: RTTY, PSK63
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: SOAB - low or high; SOSB - low or high; MOMB
Max power: HP: >100 W; LP: 100 W
Exchange: UR: RST and 2-letter Oblast; non-UR: RST and QSO no
Work stations: Once per band per mode
QSO Points: (see rules)
Multipliers: Each DXCC country once per band per mode; Each oblast once per band per mode
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 24 July 2012
E-mail logs to: urldigi@izmail-dx.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: <http://www.izmail-dx.com/>

Marconi Memorial HF Contest
14:00 UTC 23 June to 14:00 UTC 24 June
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high; Multi-Op
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: RST and serial no
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each CQ WW country once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 24 July 2012
E-mail logs to: contest.marconi@arifano.it
Mail logs to: ARI sezioni di Fano, PO Box 35 Uff. P.T. via Garibaldi, I-61032 Fano (PU), Italy
Find rules at: http://www.arifano.it/Contest_Marconi.htm

ARRL Field Day
18:00 UTC 23 June to 21:00 UTC 24 June
Mode: All
Bands: All, except 30, 17, 12 m
Classes: A: Club/non-club portable; B: One/two person portable; C: Mobile; D: Home; E: Home-emergency power; F: EOC
Max power: HP: >150 watts; LP: 150 watts; QRP: 5 watts





Exchange: W/VE: Number of transmitters (see rules), Operating class and ARRL/RAC section;
DX: Number of transmitters (see rules), Operating class and "DX"

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 1 point per phone QSO; 2 points per CW/digital QSO; Bonus Points: see rules

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points and bonus points

Submit logs by: 20:59 UTC 24 July 2012

Post log summary at: <http://www.b4h.net/cabforms/fielddayentry.php>

Mail logs to: Field Day Entries, 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111, USA

Find rules at: <http://www.arrl.org/field-day>

Next Week's Contests

SKCC Sprint, 00:00 - 02:00 UTC 27 June

CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC, 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 27 June and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 28 June

QRP Fox Hunt, 01:00 - 02:30 UTC 29 June

10-10 International Spirit of 76 QSO Party, 00:01 UTC 2 July to 24:00 UTC 8 July

RSGB 80 m Club Championship, CW, 19:00 - 20:30 UTC 2 July

ARS Spartan Sprint, 01:00 - 03:00 UTC 3 July

History This Week

A look back at events that made history this week - compiled by the Summerland Amateur Radio Club of Lismore, NSW and Dennis, ZS4BS. The week starting Monday 18 June 2012.

1675 - Royal Greenwich Observatory established in England by Charles II

1797 - Charles Newbold patents first cast-iron plow. He cannot sell it to farmers though as they fear the effects of iron on the soil!

1837 - England issues its first stamp, 1-penny Queen Victoria

1893 - First Ferris wheel premieres (Chicago's Columbian Exposition)

1919 - First advanced monoplane airliner flight (Junkers F13)

1963 - First demonstration of home video recorder, at BBC Studios, London

1982 - Himmy, of Australia, weighs in at domestic cat record of 20,7 kg

Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newsline, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Bulletin, ARRL DX News, WIA-News, the RSGB News and Southgate ARC

